vvhich heere appeareth due vpon the bond.
Iew. Tis very true: ô wise and vpright Iudge,
how much more elder art thou then thy lookes.
Por. Therefore lay bare your bosome.
Iew. I, his breast,
so sayes the bond, doth it not noble Iudge?
Neerest his hart, those are the very words.
Por. It is so, are there ballance here to weigh the flesh?
Iew. I haue them ready.
Por. Haue by some Surgion *Shylocke* on your charge,
to stop his wounds, least he doe bleede to death.
Iew. Is it so nominated in the bond?
Por. It is not so expresst, but what of that?
Twere good you doe so much for charitie.
Iew. I cannot finde it, tis not in the bond.
Por. You Merchant, haue you any thing to say?
Ant. But little; *I* am armd and well prepard,
giue me your hand *Bassanio*, far you well,
greeue not that *I* am falne to this for you:
for heerein Fortune showes her selfe more kind
then is her custome: it is still her vse
to let the wretched man out-liue his wealth,
to view with hollow eye and wrinckled brow
an age of pouertie: from which lingring pennance
of such misery doth she cut me of.
Commend me to your honourable wife,
tell her the processe of *Anthonios* end,
say how I lou'd you, speake me faire in death:
and when the tale is told, bid her be iudge
vvhether *Bassanio* had not once a loue:
Repent but you that you shall loose your friend
and he repents not that he payes your debt.
For if the *Iew* doe cut but deepe enough,
Ile pay it instantly with all my hart.
Bass. *Anthonio*, *I* am married to a wife
which is as deere to me as life it selfe,
but life it selfe, my wife, and all the world,

are not with me esteemd aboue th
I would loose all, I sacrifize them
heere to this deuill, to deliuer you
Por. Your wife would giue yo
if she were by to heare you make
Gra. I haue a wife who *I* prot
I would she were in heauen, so sh
intreate some power to change th
Ner. Tis well you offer it behi
the wish would make else an vnq
Iew. These be the christian husb
vvould any of the stocke of Barra
had beene her husband, rather th
We trifle time, *I* pray thee pursu
Por. A pound of that same M
the Court awards it, and the law
Iew. Most rightfull Iudge.
Por. And you must cut this fl
the law alowes it, and the court a
Iew. Most learned Iudge, a se
Por. Tarry a little, there is som
this bond doth giue thee heere n
the words expresly are a pound
take then thy bond, take thou th
but in the cutting it, if thou doos
one drop of Christian blood, thy
are by the lawes of Venice confi
vnto the state of Venice.
Gra. O vpright Iudge,
Marke Iew, ô learned Iudge.
Shy. Is that the law?
Por. Thy selfe shalt see the A
for as thou vrgest iustice, be assu
thou shalt haue iustice more the
Gra. O learned iudge, mark
Iew. I take this offer then, pa
and let the Christian goe.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Merchant of Venice* (STC 22296) LONDON, 1600 THE BRITISH LIBRARY (C